Skillshort

Self-Study Preparation Pack

CMA INTERMEDIATE

Paper 8: Cost Accounting (CA)

Past Papers – Trend Analysis, Question Patterns & Official Links

Based on the ICMAI Intermediate papers of Dec 2024, June 2025, Dec 2025 and June 2026 (Syllabus 2022). Questions are summarised, not reproduced – download the official PDFs from the links below.

Official PDFs only | Paper structure | MCQ and descriptive trends | Answer patterns

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This subject pack has 6 parts

1 Chapter-wise notes
2 Important topics & weightage
3 Past papers: trends & links
4 Mock tests + solutions
5 Chapter practice questions
6 Last-week plan & strategy

Prepared by Skillshort for self-study. Original explanations and questions; not an official ICAI/ICMAI/ICSI publication. Items marked VERIFY should be checked against the latest official material.

1. Structure of the paper (unchanged in all four papers)

Part	Questions	Marks
Section A (compulsory)	Q1 – 15 MCQs, 2 marks each	30
Section B	Any **5 of Q2–Q8**, each 14 marks (usually two parts; Q8 has three theory parts)	70
Total	3 hours	100

Order in Section B: **Q2** cost sheet + material · **Q3** overheads + book-keeping · **Q4** operating + contract · **Q5** process + variances · **Q6** marginal costing · **Q7** budget + CAS · **Q8** theory.

2. MCQ trends (Q1)

Paper	Topics of the 15 MCQs
Dec 2024	Direct vs indirect classification; opportunity cost; example of a by-product; features of job costing; CAS on repairs and maintenance (CAS 12); reconciliation from a financial loss; MOS 25% and profit; material variance; Halsey/Rowan earnings; batch costing situation; pricing method under inflation; fixed costs as period costs; budget prepared first
June 2025	Cost control; flexible budget (fixed, semi-fixed, variable); NRV method for joint costs; benefits of budgets; job pricing with overheads on prime cost; overhead control account (non-integrated); royalty per unit (direct expense); truck tonne-km; **Companies Act section on CAS (s. 148)**; selling price and profit; standard material price; idle time and working days; budgeted idle time; integrated entry for indirect wages
Dec 2025	Objective of cost accounting; re-order level; selling price with 25% profit on cost; **CAS 15** (selling and distribution); **CAS 12**; cost audit fees; transfers to reserves in reconciliation; costing for services; **contract 70% certified**; inter-process transfer; MOS 20% and P/V 60%; effect of a price increase; material cost variance; fixed vs variable costs in budgeting; principal budget factor
June 2026	Opportunity cost; pricing method for fluctuating prices; allocation of overheads; **CAS 15**; **CAS 11** abnormal administrative overheads; royalty to the State Government on production; reconciliation (costing loss, over-absorbed overheads); costing method for a drug company; job pricing with overheads on prime cost; truck tonne-km; selling price and contribution; P/V and BEP; budgeted idle time; fixed costs also known as; flexible budget

TREND How MCQs are framed

- **2–4 CAS questions in every paper** – CAS 10 (royalty), 11, 12 and 15 repeat. Learn the number–title list.
- **Short numericals** (re-order level, tonne-km, MOS × P/V, idle time, Halsey/Rowan) take 1–2 minutes each.
- Reconciliation MCQs test the **direction** of an item: over-absorbed overheads and items shown only in financial books.

3. Descriptive trends (Q2–Q8)

Paper	Q2–Q4	Q5–Q8
Dec 2024	Cost sheet from parameters; stock levels (three materials); pre-determined rate with strike wages and prior-period expenses; reconciliation (SONT); **bus** tourist service; contract	Two-process account; **material mix and yield**; profitability at capacity levels (SENTOR); **flexible selling and distribution budget**; **CAS 5**; objectives of cost accounting, JIT, CAS 3 disclosures
June 2025	Cost sheet (SEL); **Rowan vs Halsey** (factory cost given); overhead distribution; reconciliation (ABC Ltd.); **batch set-up cost sheet** (component Diamond); contract	**By-products** X and Y; labour variances with unproductive hours (QTR); marginal-costing decisions (Man Ltd.); **material purchase budget** (two products, three materials); **CAS 10**; essentials of a costing system, ABC analysis, CAS 8
Dec 2025	Price revision from cost structure; stock policy; **comprehensive machine hour rate**; cost sheet of articles A and B; **truck** (6 tonnes); contract (Mr. Vasanth)	Three-process account; **labour gang** variances (40-hour week); BEP (India Ltd.); three product lines; **cash budget** April–June; **CAS 5**; installation of costing, idle time, methods of costing

Paper	Q2–Q4	Q5–Q8
June 2026	Cost sheet (PQR); **EOQ** (instalment buying); pre-determined rate (Mohan Ltd.); **integrated journal entries**; **holiday home** (three room types); contract (Maharaja BuildCon)	Process Y; labour gang composition (King's Ltd.); BEP and ROI (Mr. Y); three products from one raw material; **production budget** by quarters; **CAS 10**; FA vs MA, purchasing procedure, features of job costing

TREND Recurring patterns

1. **Contract costing** – every paper; work out the stage of completion first, then choose the profit formula.
2. **Operating costing** – bus, truck or hotel/holiday home every paper; build the cost unit (passenger-km, tonne-km, room-day) before costs.
3. **Variances** – only material and labour; idle time and gang composition are the favourites.
4. **CAS answers** – objective, scope, principles of measurement, assignment, presentation and disclosure – the same five headings score full marks.

4. How to use these papers

1. Download the June 2026 paper; attempt it in 3 hours.
2. Redo every contract and operating-costing question from the four papers – they are the most predictable 14 marks.
3. Write model answers for CAS 3, 5, 8 and 10 once and revise them.
4. Practise one reconciliation and one integrated-entries question.

5. Official ICMAI papers (Paper 8)

Paper	Link
June 2026	https://dwpivt501gtb6.cloudfront.net/upload/students/QuestionPaper/June_2026/Syllabus_2022/0f375d51-1422-4836-b345-6e8f630994f3_P-8.pdf
December 2025	https://dwpivt501gtb6.cloudfront.net/upload/students/QuestionPaper/syllabus2022/Dec25/Paper8.pdf
June 2025	https://dwpivt501gtb6.cloudfront.net/upload/students/QuestionPaper/syllabus2022/June25/Paper8.pdf
December 2024	https://dwpivt501gtb6.cloudfront.net/upload/students/QuestionPaper/syllabus2022/Dec24/Paper8.pdf

Resource (ICMAI official)	Link
Question papers – Syllabus 2022, June 2026 term	https://icmai.in/CIntStudents/CIntQuestionPaperList?menuId=1
Question papers – Syllabus 2022, December 2025 term	https://icmai.in/CIntStudents/CIntQuestionPaperList?menuId=2
Question papers – Syllabus 2022, June 2025 term	https://icmai.in/CIntStudents/CIntQuestionPaperList?menuId=3
Question papers – Syllabus 2022, December 2024 term	https://icmai.in/CIntStudents/CIntQuestionPaperList?menuId=4
Study materials – Intermediate, Syllabus 2022	https://icmai.in/CIntStudents/StudyMaterials/2
Supplementary for the December 2026 term	https://icmai.in/CIntStudents/Supplementary_currentterm/index.html
Clarification on applicable law for December 2026 (15-09-2026)	https://dwpivt501gtb6.cloudfront.net/upload/students/Circulars/Clarification_Dec2026_20260915142245.pdf
Time table – Intermediate and Final, December 2026	https://dwpivt501gtb6.cloudfront.net/upload/students/December_2026_Inter_Final_20260813143653.pdf
CMA Prospectus and Syllabus 2022 (study weightage)	https://dwpivt501gtb6.cloudfront.net/upload/students/Syllabus2022/CMA_Prospectus_Syllabus_2022.pdf

Resource (ICMAI official)	Link
Student announcements	https://www.icmai.in/CIntStudents/UpdateandAnnouncements